

COMBINATORIAL PROBLEMS

A set of boxes are labeled 1 to 6. How many ways are there to put 20 identical balls into these boxes (it is allowed that some of the boxes may be empty)?

A set of boxes are labeled 1 to 6. How many ways are there to put 20 identical balls into these boxes so that none of the boxes is empty?

Let $OP(n)$ be the number of ordered ways of expressing the natural number n as a sum of natural numbers where the ordering counts. For example:

$$3 = 3 = 2 + 1 = 1 + 2 = 1 + 1 + 1$$

so $OP(3) = 4$ and

$$4 = 4 = 3 + 1 = 1 + 3 = 2 + 2 = 2 + 1 + 1 = 1 + 2 + 1 = 1 + 1 + 2 = 1 + 1 + 1 + 1$$

so $OP(4) = 8$. Determine an explicit formula for $OP(n)$.

Consider the set $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$. How many subsets are there which do not contain consecutive integers?

How many ways are there to express n as a sum of two numbers where the order of the expression counts? Put another way, in how many ways can you put n balls into 2 boxes if each box must be non-empty?

Starting at the point $(0,0)$ in the plane a move consists of going one unit to the right or one unit to the left. How many distinct paths are there to the point $(4,6)$? (free th (m,n))?

How many rectangles with lattice points as vertices are there contained in the rectangle with vertices $(0,0)$, $(n,0)$, $(0,m)$ and (n,m) ?

a) Suppose that there is a row of n seats and there is a child in each seat. How many ways are there for the children to reseat themselves if they must occupy their original seat or a seat next to their original seat? b) How many permutation π are there of $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ such that for each j ,

$$|j - \pi(j)| \leq 1?$$

For a positive integer n define $a(n)$ to be equal to the number of ways of expressing n as a sum of 1's and 2's where the order counts. For example,

$$4 = 2 + 2 = 2 + 1 + 1 = 1 + 2 + 1 = 1 + 1 + 2 = 1 + 1 + 1 + 1$$

so $a(4) = 5$. For an integer $n > 1$ let $b(n)$ denote the number of ways of writing n as a sum of integers each greater than 1, again assuming that order counts and including n itself. For example,

$$6 = 4 + 2 = 2 + 4 = 3 + 3 = 2 + 2 + 2$$

so that $b(6) = 5$. Prove that $a(n) = b(n + 2)$ for all positive integers n .

Consider a circular row of n seats each with a child. The children can rearrange themselves but they can move at most one seat. Let a_n be the number of ways. Determine a_n .

Consider all words of length n made from the letters a, b, c, d . How many have an even number of as ?

Let x_n be the number of strings of length n whose elements are from $\{0, 1, 2\}$ and have the property that consecutive terms differ by at most one. Find a recursion satisfied by x_n .